



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Savannah District

Media Advisory

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Water Safety event planned for Hartwell

FOR MEDIA PLANNING

SAVANNAH, Ga. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Hartwell Lake Office, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources will host a **BOATING AND WATER SAFETY MEDIA OPPORTUNITY** for media representatives only, Thursday, May 22 from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Big Oaks Recreation Area

Directions: Big Oaks Recreation Area is located next to the Hartwell Lake Office and Visitor Center on U.S. Hwy 29 in Hart County, Ga.

From South Carolina, follow US Hwy. 29 into Georgia, Big Oaks is located approximately one mile past the Georgia/South Carolina state line on the right side of the road (there is a sign).

From Georgia, Big Oaks is located approximately six miles from the City of Hartwell, Ga. Following US Hwy 29 North out of Hartwell, Big Oaks will be on the left (there is a sign) just past the Hartwell Lake Operation Manager's Office and Visitor Center.

Join boating safety officers and park rangers to learn about differences in state laws, boating under the influence, boating equipment requirements, boater education, the importance of wearing a life jacket, and other boating and water safety issues. In addition, patrol boats will be available to take the media out for footage and photos.

This event is planned in advance of one of Hartwell Lakes' busiest boating weekends of the year, Memorial Day Weekend, which is seen by many as the "kick-off" to the summer recreation season. Each year there are accidents and fatalities involving boating and swimming on area lakes. The Corps of Engineers and other agencies consider the media vital to water and boating safety education. This event provides the media an opportunity to capture footage, photos, and storylines to be used now or throughout the recreation season to educate the public and to help diminish water-related injuries and fatalities.

For more information, contact Park Ranger Tanya Grant of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Hartwell Lake Project Office, at 706-856-0323 or toll-free at 1-888-893-0678, ext. 323.

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